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DPRK Proposes Single Table Tennis Team to S. Korea

PYONGYANG, February 20 (KCNA)—Kim Yu Sun, Chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee and Kim Duk Jun, Chairman of the Korean Table Tennis Association, on Feb. 20 sent a letter to Pak Jong Gyu, Chairman of the South Korean Sports Association, and Chae Yong Chol, Chairman of the South Korean Table Tennis Association, proposing to them to form a single team of the north and the south to participate in the 35th World Table Tennis Championships scheduled in Pyongyang.

The letter said:

The 35th World Table Tennis Championships is slated in Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from April 25 to May 6.

Now our compatriots are awaiting the day of the opening of the championships, showing keen interest in it which is the first of such games to open in our country.

The championships will be a good occasion for displaying the united might of our nation at home and abroad and promoting the national harmony and unity of the north and the south.

If the championships is to be made a significant one conforming to common national desire, it is desirable for the players of the north and the south to participate in it as a single team, pooling their strength, not as separate teams, we think. If the north and south form a single team, we will certainly score good results with our united might and more proudly demonstrate the resourcefulness and stamina of our nation. This will also positively help towards promoting collaboration and unity between the north and south and bring joy to our people desirous of national reunification.

Out of such desire we proposed long ago to form a single team of the north and south for participating in the international games.

With the holding of the 35th World Table Tennis Championship in Pyongyang as an occasion, we once again propose to your side to form a single team of the north and south to participate in the championships.

We hope to have a meeting of representatives of the table tennis associations of the two sides in Panmunjom at 10 on the morning of Feb. 27 to discuss concrete matters concerning this problem.

Believing that you will have the same view on our initiative conforming to the desire of the fellow countrymen, we expect an affirmative reply from you.

DPRK Delegation Composed

The spokesman of the Korean Table Tennis Association on Feb. 24 made public a statement on the composition of the delegation of the DPRK to discuss the question of forming a unified team of the north and the south to participate in the 35th World Table Tennis Championships, KCNA reported.

Follows the text of the statement:

We have already proposed to the Taehan (south Korean) Sports Association and the Taehan Table Tennis Association to form a unified team of the north and the south to participate in the 35th World Table Tennis Championships slated in Pyongyang and to have a meeting of representatives of the table tennis associations of the two sides at Panmunjom to discuss this question.

In this connection, we have decided to form the delegation of the Korean Table Tennis Association as follows:

Head of the delegation:

Kim Duk Jun, Chairman of the Korean Table Tennis Association

Members of the delegation:

Pak Mu Song, Vice-Chairman of the Korean Table Tennis Association

Kim Dok Gi, Secretary General of the Korean Table Tennis Association

Kim Son Il, Member of the Korean Table Tennis Association

We will dispatch the delegation of our side to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 10 on the morning of Feb. 27 to discuss the question of forming a unified team of the north and the south for the 35th World Table Tennis Championships.

S. Korea Agrees to DPRK Proposal

South Korean sports officials Feb. 21 agreed to meet their DPRK counter-parts Feb. 27 to discuss a Pyongyang's proposal to form a single all-Korea team to take part in the 35th World Table Tennis Championships scheduled to be held in Pyongyang from coming April 25.

Chae Yong Chul, president of the south Korean table tennis association said he is willing to meet the DPRK's officials at Panmunjom at 10 a.m. on Feb. 27.

90% of S. Korean Solons Favor N-S Talks

—Polls Conducted by Dong-A Ilbo Survey—

A great number of south Korean assemblymen are actively insisting on the need for participation of the representatives of all public organizations in south Korea in the north-south dialogue and negotiation, which is proposed in the 4-point Jan. 23 proposal of the DPRK, according to the Feb. 21 issue of "Tong-A Ilbo," a south Korean daily.

This was revealed in a survey of public opinion on all problems of policy, economic, and foreign affairs, conducted by the paper from Feb. 10 to 18, covering all the 231 members of the "national assembly," who were elected to the "national assembly" as a result of an "election" held in south Korea on Dec. 12 last year.

The poll found that almost all south Korean assemblymen (90.4%), not only of the opposition party but also of the ruling party positively supported the necessity of a north-south dialogue.

Besides, 21.2% of them sincerely called for attendance of representatives of public organizations at the north-south dialogue.

The poll showed that participation of public representatives in the north-south dialogue was urged by all members of the Democratic Unification Party, the New Democratic Party-35.2%, Independents-28.6%, the ruling Democratic Republican Party-11.4%, the "Yujeong-Hoe" (Political Fraternity for the Revitalizing Reform)-4.9%.

This also showed how strong public opinion for a large scale dialogue between north and south is in south Korea, where slanders and calumnies against the north and pressure on public opinion are continuing as before.

The survey clearly revealed that despite the marked differences of positions and views between two sides concerning the objective of contact and credentials of the representatives, voices calling for reunification on the basis of the people's will are raising in south Korea.

In recent years, figures of various south Korean political parties have been insisting that north-south talks not be limited in participation to some authorities but be expanded in scope to include people's representatives.

Ryang Il Dong, leader of the Democratic Unification Party, June 8, 1976 stressed in a prepared statement that the north-south talks should be opened as early as possible and be developed on the basis of the demand of the people on both sides of Korea. He said:

"It is necessary to change the north-south coordinating commission to a new body representing public organizations such as a unification council."

In its action program adopted at the party's regular convention held in May, 1973, the New Democratic Party also once advocated the need to replace the north-south coodinating commission with a pan-national consultative body.

Meanwhile, Yun Bo Son, former "president" of south Korea, and other persons, asserted in the "declaration for democracy and national salvation" issued by the "National Coalition for Democracy" in July, 1978 that people should be masters in promoting the national reunification which is the long-cherished desire of the nation.

Voices calling for the peaceful reunification of Korea are arising from among the people of all walks of life in south Korea.

Rodong Sinmun Raps 'Team Spirit '79'

PYONGYANG, Feb. 23 (KCNA)—Rodong Sinmun(organ of the CC of the WFK) Feb. 23 carries a commentators' article in connection with the plan of the United States and south Korea to stage a joint military exercise of unprecedented scale in south Korea from March 1.

The article headlined "Outrageous Challenge to Cause of Peace and Reunification" says:

The ardent desire of all the compatriots for reunification has been rapidly growing since we put forward new four-point proposals for reunification. Our initiatives for creating an atmosphere of national reconciliation and dialogue and promoting the cause of reunification are evoking ever greater welcome and support at home and abroad.

We are now making every sincere effort possible to facilitate contact and dialogue between the north and the south and achieve reunification.

As everyone knows, we put forward new important proposals the keynote of which is the reaffirmation of the idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement, discontinuation of slanders and calumnies, unconditional stop of military actions and the convocation of the whole-nation congress, and have since taken a series of practical steps for their realisation.

These proposals and steps of ours proceeded from the sincere desire to create an atmosphere of national unity and reconciliation and pave the way for peaceful reunification through dialogue and negotiation and from the common interests of the nation.

Taking the realistic steps for dispelling misunderstanding and distrust and improving the relations between the north and the south, we expected that the south Korean side would not fail to show a favourable response to them. But, ill-boding things contrary to our expectation are now taking place in south Korea.

Threat to Peace, Security Of World

According to foreign press reports, the United States and south Korea plan to stage a joint military exercise of unprecedented scale in south Korea from March 1.

The military exercise involving warships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, the U.S. marines in Okinawa, and U.S. warplanes in south Korea, Japan, Guam, and the U.S. mainland, is claimed to be intended for "demonstrating the deterrent power against attacks from the north."

This is a very strange act hardly understandable.

We have already reaffirmed the idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement and totally stopped accusation against the other side and, furthermore, are taking appropriate measures after calling for an unconditional stoppage of all hostile military actions by both sides from March 1. To stage a large-scale military exercise at this juncture is a grave challenge to our sincere efforts and peace in Korea.

To arm south Korea with modern weapons of mass destruction including nuclear weapons introduced from outside and create a danger of war by military exercises, inventing the lie of "military threat" from the north, which never exists, is itself a danger not only to peace in Korea and her reunification, but also to peace and security of the world.

If the north and the south are to sit face to face and have an open-hearted dialogue and solve the reunification question in a peaceful way, it is important, above all, to create an atmosphere of dialogue.

It is an elementary requisite for the creation of an atmosphere of dialogue to discontinue slanders and calumnies against the other side and stop military actions antagonizing or threatening the opposing side.

The plan of the south Korean authorities to stage a large-sclae war exercise against us, while talking about dialogue and reunification, leaves the people dubious of the stand of the south Korean side towards dialogue.

When the person in authority in sout Korea said that the two sides should refrain from a fratricidal war and jointly seek a way for the unification and prosperity of the nation, responding, though belatedly to our initiatives for the dialogue for reunification, we welcomed it, thinking it a good thing.

If the south Korean authorities really want to seek a way for the unification and prosperity of the nation jointly with us, they should not fail to respond to our proposals for peaceful reunification.

Act of Pursuing Division, War

But, they are going to stage a large-scale war exercise at the very outset of the dialogue. This is not only a downright opposition to the proposals for peaceful reunification advanced by us, but also an act going back on their own words. It is utterly incompatible with the nation's common principles of reunification on rejecting outside orces and achieving the reunification of the country independently and peacefully, not resorting to a military action, and on the basis of great national unity; after all, it cannot be construed otherwise than an act for ursuing division and war.

Moreover, we proposed an immediate end to slanders and calumnies against the other side and unconditional and immediate discontinuation of all military actions antagonizing and threatening the opposing side for the creation of a climate of north-south dialogue for reunification, and are carrying them into practice one by one on our own initiative. What is it, if not an act intended to throw a wet blanket over the dialogue and lead it to a rupture, to fire guns and rifles, giving off powder smell, while continuing slanders and calumnies against the other party to the dialogue, at such moment?

The act of the south Korean authorities contradicts their words; it makes us doubt their true intention when they talk about reunification through dialogue.

The reckless military exercise staged in south Korea will only aggravate tension on the Korean Peninsula, incite the consciousness of antagonism and confrontation within the nation and, in the long run, create an obstacle to the dialogue, bar the reunification and increase the danger of war.

At a time when the entire Korean people are greeting with joy and expectation the new start of the north-south dialogue, the south Korean authorities are taking an act not beneficial to national reunification. This is really regrettable.

If the south Korean authorities want peace and peaceful reunification and a dialogue for reunification, they must give up military exercise against us at once.

Now fair world opinion demands the United States stop all acts that may increase tension in Korea, threaten peace and foster antagonism and confrontation within our nation under the condition in which a new contact is being made between the north and south.

The United States says that it "welcomes" north-south dialogue. But, in actuality, it does another.

The military exercise the United States plans to stage with south Korea throws, in fact, a dark shadow on the road of the new contact and negotiation arranged with so much efforts etween the north and south.

It is making a big noise claiming that the projected military exercise will be "a demonstration of the deterrent power" and "reaffirmation of the determination of defence." But this can frighten no one.

This only brings into bolder relief its aggressive and bellicose nature under the eyes of the world people.

If the United States truly want peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification, it should not obstruct the face-to-face dialogue between the Koreans, but discontinue the war clamour and withdraw its troops from south Korea quickly.

The United States and the south Korean authorities should ponder over the possible consequences of the projected military exercise.

Peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification are a unanimous aspiration of the whole nation and a common desire of the world people.

We will continue to make all efforts to create an atmosphere of dialogue and negotiation and achieve the reunification of the country on the basis of the principles and idea of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.

(Subtitles are ours....Ed.)

Railway Electrification Completed

A meeting was held at the Sinanju Youth Railway Station for opening to traffic newly built railway between Sinanju and Huichon.

The electrification of the Sinanju-Huichon railway section extending over 100 kilometres has been completed in the DPRK, according to a KCNA report on Feb. 21.

This is another shining fruit in electrifying the railways throughout the country and modernizing transport.

The electrification of this section of steep slopes has made it possible to markedly increase the freight transport capacity and improve the cultural practice and services in railway transport.

The builders completed the electrification project in a matter of eight months by sharply raising the proportion of the mechanized work and introducing new working methods.

A meeting for opening the electrified Sinanju-Huichon railway section to traffic was held on Feb. 20 at the Sinanju Youth Railway Station.

KOREA FOCUS

Carter's Decision to Meet Pak

By U. Choe

It has been announced that an agreement was reached on holding a south Korea-U.S. summit in Seoul in the wake of a Western summit now slated for June in Tokyo.

The planned summit is the first since the November, 1974 visit to Seoul by the then U.S. President Ford. During this period a lot of strains have appeared between Seoul and Washington.

No country is free from public shouts "Yankees, go home!" except for south Korea. Currently, however, the south Korean people are in no mood to welcome the planned visit of the American President. Those of the democratic movement are opposed to the coming of President Carter as were to the visit of Ford. The reason is their perception of Carter's visit as a formal endorsement of the dictatorial rule of the Pak junta. The sentiment even within the Pak junta is increasingly distrustful of the Americans over the more than two years of investigations into the KCIA operations to buy influence on Capitol Hill. Against this context, what is the sense of President Carter's planned visit to Seoul?

In his inaugural address two years ago, President Carter frankly admitted that the days were gone when the U.S. could decide the course of events in the world, a candid acknowledgement of the limits of American power. This admission never meant the American readiness to give up the role of a ruler of the world. Carter listed human rights diplomacy and the pull-out of American troops from south Korea as major campaign promises and made all efforts to put them into practice when he took over, as he believed that they were most effective in maintaining the American status as a global power, given the present limited resources of the U.S. His effort has produced a series of difficulties which in turn has subjected Carter to bitter attacks from many quarters. While making political concessions to Congressional critics and those in the military, Carter tried to prosecute human rights diplomacy and the planned American military pull-out from south Korea with persistence which marked the refusal to abandon the American status in the world. Since it has become necessary to prepare for the next presidential election, Carter has been compelled to straighten the strained American-south Korean relations.

Another motive is to move closer to the fulfilment of his own election promises. These are key considerations in Carter's decision to go to Seoul.

The Asian policy of the U.S. is evolving with the American-Japanese treaty as its axis. Strengthening co-operative ties with the allies is one of major foreign policy objectives of President Carter. He is always careful not to diminish the American leadership and influence with regard to the allies. Proof is manifest in Japan's conciliatory attitude to the high-powered economic diplomacy of the U.S. in connection with the decline of the American currency against the Japanese currency. Every year Japan is forced to pay ¥30 billion ($100 million) of the expenses for the stationing of GI's in this country and to spend for the 1977-1981 period a huge sum of money 2.5 times as much as the figure allocated for the fourth defense buildup plan. A potent evidence is the American encouragement which led to the Japanese-Sino treaty. In one respect the policy of increasing Japan's role in making up for the shrinking presence of the U.S. in Asia is contrary to the interests of the U.S. because Japan is seeking its own interests in this process.

It is alleged that the south Korean-American relationship has shifted from the vertical relationship to the horizontal relationship, in other words, from the master-servant relations to the equal relations. The "remarkable economic growth" is cited as a main factor by both the south Koreans and the Americans. It is more correct to attribute any development in the south Korean economy to the decisive role of the Japanese. To be more frank, the "economic growth" of south Korea is the growth of the Japanese economy in south Korea.

The world today is polarized, a far cry from the once bipolar domination by the U.S. and the USSR. It is due to the decline of American power and the relative emergence of the new-born forces. The Americans abandoned the Thieu clique of Saigon, the Lon-Nol clique of Phnom Penh and the Nationalist regime in Taipei. Then came the upheaval in Iran. These events present Pak Jung Hi with a highly embarrassing option as he sees in them a clear omen of his eventual fate. The American leaders use the first opportunity to reaffirm the U.S. commitment to south Korea. The South Korea-U.S. defense treaty is being much publicized as a tangible means of maintaining that commitment. Notwithstanding this, in the eyes of Pak, continuing criticism of human rights violations and the unilateral reduction of the American military strength in south Korea make the Americans look like unreliable friends, sharpening his suspicions about the American commitment. Once a faithful officer in the Japanese army, Pak is tilting farther to Japan as a more reliable friend.

Given these facts, it is obvious what is Carter's aim in planning a visit to Seoul. President Carter is resolved to personally persuade Pak to remain loyal to the U.S.

South Korea and the U.S. are launching an intensive effort to secure a successful summit. Assistant Secretary of State Holbrooke in his Dec. 6 address declared the termination of the investigations of the influence-peddling operations in the U.S. and predicted a sound development of American-south Korean relationship in 1979. More recently, on Feb. 10, President Carter announced a temporary suspension of the reduction of the American forces in south Korea, the thing that the south Koreans most hate. As if responding to the American criticism of the human rights violations, the Pak junta moved to release Kim Dae Jung from prison by suspending his term and accepted a proposal from Pyongyang to resume north-south talks.

The immediate target of the U.S. Korea policy is to create "two Koreas" and retain its domination over south Korea. The ultimate intension of Pak with a strong desire for political power is perpetuating the division of the Korean Peninsula for ever. State Secretary Vance is reported to have supported "talks between responsible authorities" in his Feb. 20 meeting with south Korean "foreign minister" Pak Tong Jin. The forthcoming south Korean-American summit is likely to end up with cementing filthy relationship between the American master and his client junta of Pak Jung Hi in opposing the reunification of Korea as desired by the fifty million Koreans.

A boost in arms buildup is expected. In 1974 when Ford was visiting Seoul, the then Japanese foreign minister Kimura Toshio remarked: "The threat from the north is not an objective reality." But, Ford stressed "prompt and effective assistance in repelling an armed attack on the Republic of Korea" in preparation against the threat from the north. No informed man senses any threat of war on the Korean Peninsula. On Feb. 20, however, south Korean minister in charge of reunification affairs Li Yong Hi called public attention to the "possibility of armed clashes on the Korean Peninsula." Washington claims that no change will be made in its plan to withdraw GI's from south Korea because it is based on a full assessement of the combat capability of the north. However, they are now screaming that the military forces of the north are far more stronger than anticipated. "Team Spirit '79" is now under way in south Korea. All these moves are clearly intended to pour cold warter on the just-resumed north-south talks by sharpening the tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

On balance, the Carter Administration is giving public support to the isolated Pak junta even by abandoning its own original commitment. Large numbers of democrats are reportedly being grilled by the KCIA, including Kim Dae Jung who was again taken into custody. They are mostly kept under house arrest. The public distrust of the U.S. is now giving way to the anti-American sentiments. It is high time for Carter to realize this reality and take proper steps.

15 Years after Publication of "Theses on Socialist Rural Question in Our Country"

It is 15 years since President Kim Il Sung made public "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country." During the period of 15 years the countryside of the DPRK has undergone many changes.

The Korean people did not benefit from modern civilization, have completed not only electrification and irrigation systems in agriculture but realized mechanization and scientification on a full scale.

Today, the Korean people are living in a new age of industrialization and modernization of agriculture. Life bears eloquent testimony to the validity of "Theses on Rural Question in Our Country" published by President Kim Il Sung.

President Kim Il Sung has this to say:

"When we published the theses on the socialist rural question many people regarded it as an ideal. But today it is turning into reality. We can confidently say that we have now entered an era of complete industrialization and modernization of agriculture."

A Utopia where all the people lead a free and happy life free from exploitation and oppression, the Korean people keenly aspired after for thousands of years, has come true in the countryside of the country.

As a result of a thorough ideological revolution in the rural areas, the ideological and moral standards of farmers have altered beyond recognition.

Agricultural workers armed with the Juche idea are working hard for the good of their communities and society at large under the slogan—"One for all and all for one." A bumper crop the farmers enjoy every year is the very fruit of their labour enthusiasm.

The President defined irrigation, mechanization, electrification, and chemicalization as the basic tasks of the technical revolution in the rural areas, and these tasks have been attained in the main.

With the completion of large-scale irrigation projects, the farmers who used to suffer from floods and droughts almost every year, can now reap bumper crops every year, regardless of droughts or floods.

By energetically pushing ahead with electrification, almost all the farm villages and farmhouses now utilize electricity so that farmers are making effective use of electric power in farming.

The mechanization and chemicalization of agriculture are successfully under way with the backing of the Juche-oriented industry.

The target set in the theses for the number of tractors to 70,000-80,000 (in terms of 15 h.p. units)—has already been attained.

The quality of chemical fertilizers has been improved, the target set for the amount of chemical fertilizer per hectare of land under cultivation more that one ton—was attained in 1975.

The cultural revolution has been vigorously promoted in the countryside. Large numbers of technical cardres have been trained as technicians and specialists needed in different branches of agriculture.

The cultural and technical standards of the peasantry have been raised and all backward living habits and customs have been done away with. Farmers are leading a cultured life in abundance.

7.0 million ton target set for grain production under the Six-Year Plan was attained 2 years ahead of schedule.

Tractors are massproduced to provide the countryside.

The Korean farmers produced 8.0 million tons of grain in 1976, 8.5 million tons in 1977.

Last year's grain production was raised to a new high despite bad weather. The output of vegetables in 1976 doubled as against 1970.

Rural clinics have been expanded and equipped fully, and medical service for the peasants further improved.

The countryside has changed, and distinctions between town and country have been removed remarkably.

County co-operative farm management committees, organized by the Workers' Party of Korea, have radically reorganized the system of guidance in agriculture in conformity with the changed realities in the rural areas.

Tractors, trucks and chemical fertilizers, electrical appliances, farming machines play a very important part in the technical innovation in the rural areas.

Young intellectuals armed with the Juche idea of the party help agricultural workers in many ways.

Korean farmers were also liberated from the tax burden for the first time in history.

Production facilities, apartments, irrigation systems and various farming machines including tractors are supplied by farmers by the state expense.

Agricultural specialists and technicians are produced and trained at state expense.

The marvelous changes of the countryside owe largely to President Kim Il Sung who leads the Korean people in the realization of "Theses on Rural Question". His guidance reaches all corners of the countryside.

People are very moved to hear the story about the President who, on his way back home after his on-the-spot guidance in a village, said to farmers, "All of you will help me, I will help you and we will develop our agriculture hand in hand."

His affection for farmers and his readiness to share joys and sorrows with farmers will remain in the minds of the Korean people for ever.

The President concerns himself with the welfare of the people, cares nothing about himself, always thinking how the farmers are getting along?

His on-the-spot guidance is continuously given to liberate farmers from hard work once and for all.

The President speaks event to a driver whom he meets on a road, "What shall we do to save farmers from a hard work?"

The President directed the construction of the Kumsong Tractor Factory which plays a big role in the technical revolution, so that tractors might be distributed everywhere in the countryside.

The socialist countryside of the country has a bright future. The great cause of "Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country" which many people regarded as a mere ideal, is about to be realized in our country.

If it is realized, the countryside will become a wonderful paradise and people, will be reborn, mountains and rivers will be fully tapped, farming methods will be completely renovated.

On Jan. 23 4-Point Proposal (2). (3)

Put End to Slandering, Military Action

The four-point package reunification proposal made by Pyongyang contains an immediate stop to calumnies and slanders against each other and hostile military actions with an embargo on imports of weapons. Pyongyang proposed unconditionally discontinue all military exercises as from zero hour March 1.

The proposal for ending slanders against each other by displaying the spirit of respecting and understanding each other is a reasonable one to solve the reunification issue. This is intended to make the north-south talk a true dialogue for the reunification of the country, on the basis of the idea and principles of the July 4, 1972 north-south joint statement.

To discontinue mud-slinging is an elementary requirement for the realization of talks. Any talk calls for the spirit of mutual respect and trust. No dialogue can be realized, if both sides slander and calumniate each other.

Mutual respect and mutual trust are essential for a relationship between individuals, between states and between two parts of a divided nation.

This should be accepted by parties concerned of a dialogue as an elementary norm of life and morality.

North and south Korean societies follow different ideas and ideals.

North-south talks are those between different societies, and there still remain misunderstanding and distrust between them.

Their talks, however, are talks in one family. Then, it is easy to create a climate for easing aggravated feelings and deepen mutual understanding and trust.

First of all, a stop to mud-slinging by the other side is requested in order to create an atmosphere of mutual confidence.

Slandering and calumniating produce distrust and misunderstanding among nations and lead them to confrontation and antagonisms.

No contribution can be made by verbal brow-beating forward reducing differences, finding a community of views or expediting the reunification work.

Instead, relationships between north and south will be frozen again.

Therefore, both sides stated before the whole nation in the 2nd item of the north-south joint rapprochement that the two sides agreed upon refraining from slandering and calumniating the other side, in order to ease the tension between the north and south and create an atmosphere to trust.

This continuation of verbal attacks on the other side is a principled demand for the resumption of talks.

Both sides have started talks, with an end to slandering and calumniating as a principle to follow.

In the course of north-south talks, the chairmen of both north and south delegations to the coordination commission reached an agreement at the 2nd meeting that: "Both sides, according to the articles of the north-south joint statement on refraining from slandering and calumniating each other, should stop radio broadcasting toward the north and toward the south, loud speaker broadcasting toward the north and toward the south on the MDL and distribution of leaflets in the areas of the other side, as from 0 (zero) hour Nov. 10, 1972."

From the outset of the joint statement, Pyongyang has made consistent efforts to implement the agreed points of the statement.

However, the south Korean side trampled underfoot these agreed points. If the south Korean side slanders the other side, the DPRK side can't but make a counterattack and it inevitably brings about mutual mud-slinging. Consequently, verbal attacks can't help realize national unity.

An immediate and unconditional halt to all hostile actions of military nature is also a reasonable step.

It is urgently required to resolve military confrontation and relax tension between north and south.

In a bid to solve the reunification issue peacefully, both north and south Korea should trust each other and realize national unity. So, the dissolution of north-south military confrontation and the easing of tension between the two sides are an inevitable prerequisite.

If one side continuously increases armed forces and plots to aggravate military confrontation, the other side cannot but reinforce its armed forces as a counter measure. This will continue the arms race.

North and south Korea are militarily confronting each other on both sides of the MDL, by deploying armed forces massively.

In this tensed situation, it is clear what will result from this. Therefore, in order to resolve this tensed situation, both sides should at least stop military actions to menace the other side, discontinue the shipment of weapons from the outside and eliminate all possibilities of a military conflict.

In this way it is an important guarantee for easing tension and maintaining and consolidating peace in Korea unconditionally to stop all hostile military action menacing the other side.

It is also important for improving north-south relationships, consolidating national unity and expediting the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea.

The July 4 north-south joint statement pointed out that the reunification of the country should be solved by peaceful means without depending on military actions against the other side and that positive measures should be taken for mitigating the tension.

One of the functions of the north-south coordinating commission is to take appropriate measures to promote detente, avoid military conflicts and resolve military confrontation.

The proposal to stop hostile military actions completely satisfies the joint statements and the agreed points.

Pyongyang has always stated that she does not contemplate" southward invasion" and that she has never used armed forces unless military action was taken against the north.

The continuous armed build-up and war games are bringing Korea closer to the brink of war, posing a serious menace to the peace and security not only of Asia and the Pacific but also of the world.

A stop to all the military actions against the other side will make it possible sharply to reduce huge military spending and the large numbers of troops substantially and divert financial resources to economic construction and the welfare of the people at large.

There is no reason why the south Korean side can't accept Pyongyang's proposal at this moment to stop all hostile military actions, such as arms reinforcement, military operation and building of military setups in the front-line areas, with the MDL as the centre, and unconditionally discontinue all military exercises as from zero hour March 1.

Yearning of South Koreans for Korea's Reunion

The south Korean public are making an ever greater demand for the reunification of the Korean Peninsula. Not only democrats but students in south Korea list the reunification; issue as the top objective of their struggle.

Follows a digest of south Korean democrats and students say on the reunification of Korea, as they represent the unanimous desire of all the south Korean people:

☆ ☆

"We now stand at a critical crossroads of national history to choose between life and death, between freedom and slavery, between independence and subjugation, between peace and war, and between reunification and division.

"We have responded to an urgent call from our national history, breaking the long-forced silence and ending doubt, hesitation and indolence.

"Let's hold aloft the banner of democracy, nation and reunification!" **(from a handbill distributed by the students at Seoul, Koryo, Kyonghee, Seogang and other universities in south Korea Nov. 18, 1975)**

"'National Unification' is today the supreme task which must be carried by all the Korean people. The barrier dividing north and south must be brought down by the combined strength and wisdom of all 50-million Koreans. If any individual or group uses or obstructs 'National Unification' for its own strategic purpose, it will be impossible to escape the strict judgement of history." **(from the Declaration for Democracy and National Salvation read out by Kim Dae Jung and 11 others at the prayer meeting at the Myongdong Cathedral in Seoul March 1, 1976)**

"We reaffirm that democratic and peaceful reunification is our only national aim." **(from the Declaration of Ordeal published by the students of Hanguk Theological College April 8, 1977)**

"We want the reunification of the Korean Peninsula above all things. We hope ardently for peace, but we do not want peace at the price of permanent division between north and south." **(from the March 1 Declaration of Democracy issued by south Korean dissidents Feb. 24, 1978)**

"The failure to accomplish national reunification will in turn result in the loss of our valuable spiritual life. To have the country reunified is never a simple exertion of physical power but is our clear claim to the moral life. The assumption of this life is that the separated halves of our country form the absolutely necessary limbs and body." **(from an article of the Rev. Ham Sok Hon, a Quaker leader in south Korea, run in a vernacular Seoul monthly magazine "The Voice of the People" in its June 1978 issue)**

"We will advance toward reunification as a national desire. We affirm once again the truth that only democracy can pave the way for the settlement of the reunification issue.

"Our struggle against the dictatorship and for democracy represents the national will to bring about reunification. **(from a Declaration for Democratic Nation made public by the National Coalition for Democracy July 10, 1978)**

"The division of the country is a tragedy for our compatriots and a factor in political instability in Northeast Asia. The reunification of Korea is bound to produce the opposite results.

"A reunified neutral Korea might make a great contribution to political stability in Northeast Asia as a buffer state." **(from an article of the pastor Mun Ik Hwan, contributed to the July-August 1978 issue of "The Voice of the People")**

"Reunification is the greatest task of our national history. The 5,000-year national history of hardships and the national spirit which is alive in our veins make reunification an absolute necessity and an absolute ultimate aim. Naturally, therefore, reunification should not be any ideology nor should it be any means of prolonging the regime. But it should be the end itself and be attained voluntarily and peacefully with the people's will to reunification democratically crystallized, not unilaterally through armed power. **(from the Declaration for Democracy and against Dictatorship issued by Seoul University students who rose up in anti-Pak Jung Hi struggle Sep. 13, 1978)**

The reunification of the nation matters most for the Koreans. Reunification is our task number one under whatsoever circumstances. All my ideas, will, reality, and ideal concern only the reunification issue. Why? As I have said in the preceding part, I think that the root cause of all the tragedies of the 30 odd years since the liberation lies in the division of the nation." **(Paek Gi Wan, director of the Paekbom Thought Institute)**

"The vested interests may try to obstruct the reunification process under various pretexts unless their rights should be dispossessed. Their attempt is bound to fail, however. The awakened masses, aware of their potential, will remove all the forces opposed to reunification and drive powerfully toward the goal of reunification **(The Rev. Mun Ik Hwan, pastor and vice-President of the Human Rights Association)**

Scientification of National Economy

Scientists of Korea have been playing an active role in the Juche-orientation, the modernization and the scientification of the national economy. They are successfully contributing to the present national economic plan for the betterment of the people's living.

Last year, they went out to 10 odd major objects including the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Works, the Tanchon Magnesia Factory and the Anju District Coal Mining Complex and solved a lot of scientific and technical problems arising in production in cooperation with the workers and technicians on the spot.

The scientists who went to iron and steel works including the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Works, have created scientific and technical conditions for consolidating the independence of the ferrous metallurgical industry and normalizing production at a high level.

Through their assiduous researches, they have found a new method of raising the output and quality of agglomeration to increase its productivity and markedly extend the life span of the oxygen converters.

The scientists who chose the Anju District Coal Mining Complex went down to the cutting faces and concentrated their efforts on the introduction of large, modern and high-speed mining equipment, working with colliers.

Scientists also strove hard to mechanize and automatize production at food-processing factories and put the production processes and methods and management activities on a new scientific basis.

Rapid development of science and techniques is one of important factors which accelerate production and construction in the socialist society.

The Second Seven-Year Plan (1978-1984) is a magnificent program aimed at further consolidating the socialist independent national economy and putting it on a new scientific footing, by making the national economy Juch-oriented, modernized and scientific at an accelerated pace.

The Second Seven-Year Plan was kicked off at the 1st Session of the 6th Supreme People's Assembly held between Dec. 15 and 17, 1977 in the form of the law of the SPA of the DPRK.

During this period, industrial production is expected to increase at an annual average rate of 12.1 per cent and industrial output to rise 2.2 times.

In the final year of the plan, the DPRK will become able to annually produce 56,000-60,000 million kwh of electricity, 70-80 million tons of coal, 7.4-8 million tons of steel, one million tons of nonferrous metals, 5 million tons of engineering products, 5 million tons of chemical fertilizers, 12-13 million tons of cement, 3.5 million tons of aquatic products, and 10 million tons of grain; and reclaim 100,000 chongbo of tideland.

Under the condition in which the scale of the economy has become larger than never before, and there are no much idle facilities, materials and labour introduction of science and modern technology into production is necessary in a bid to guarantee the rapid progress of the national economy and to solve the scientific and technical problems arising in the Juche-orientation, modernization and scientification.

Development of science and techniques will also contribute to further raising the people's living standard.

In order to raise the people's living standard, many-sidedly-developed light industry must be built up based upon the heavy industry into which modern scientific techniques are introduced, and socialist rural management must be developed based upon modern techniques.

Development of scientific techniques is also necessary to overcome the influence of the cold front due to which 500 million people are starving in the world, and gurantees the raw materials for light industry.

The Kim Chaek Polytechnical Institute, a comprehensive technical personnel-training centre in the country, is contributing to developing sciences and technology.

It has a postgraduate course, a doctor course and research institutes including the steel institute and the mining and metal research institute, where many scientists and researchers including doctors and professors are engaged in research for education and scientific and technical development.

While paying primary attention to the solution of pressing technical problems raised in developing the Juche industry reliant on domestic natural resources, the institute has settled many problems in widely introducing the latest achievements of science and technology in different branches of the national economy.

This polytechnical institute produced scores of valuable research groups designed and built good machines suitable to the physiographic conditions such as anthracite selectors, fish shoal detectors, tractors for sloping fields, etc.

From the firm Juche postition, the teachers and researchers made many new discoveries and inventions with their collective efforts and wisdom.

Recently the teachers and researchers of the geological prospecting department discovered vast deposits of anthracite as a result of their intensive efforts to find more underground resources for the country.

The electronic engineering and metal working departments have scored good results in research work on machines and equipment and apparatuses and metals for the automation of the industry.

All these research results are now widely used in the various branches of the national economy and are much conducive to elevating the level of other technical college students.

Today the teachers and reserachers of this institute are vigorously pushing ahead with their research work for the Juche-orientation, modernization and scientification of the national economy and the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural.

Scientists striving for automatization of food-processing

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N. Pyongan Prov.

North Pyongan Province is situated in the northwestern part of the DPRK bordering on Northeast China. The province has low mountainous areas in its nowtheastern parts, wide plain areas in its western coastal parts and hilly areas in its central part. Northeastern parts of the province are almost all entirely mountainous. There are low extentions of the Kangnam, Chongryong and Myohayong ranges of mountains which run from Chagang Province into North Pyongan Province. The rivers Taeryong, Changsong and Samgyochon flow through these mountainous areas and the Amrok River flows along the borderline of Korea and China into the West Sea.

North Pyongan Province has solid heavy industrial bases, including mining, machine-building industries, textile and other light industrial bases.

The province abounds in natural resources including gold, silver, copper, zinc and lead. Especially it has abundant nonferrous metal deposits such as gold, silver and lead. Important mines are the Taeyudong, Untan, Chonma and Munre mines.

Machine-building is a province's leading industry. There are many machine-building plants around Sinuiju and in various other places of the province.

The Rakwon Machine Plant is one of the excavator producers of the country. The plant turns out excavators and sinker drills of various types, mining equipment and custom-made equipment for different domains of the national economy. The plant has a factory college, a higher technical school and provides an excavator operator training course where workers study while on the job. They produce a large number of technicians and skilled workers every year. Nearly half the employees of the plant are technicians.

In the province are many other machine plants including the Pukchung Machine Plant and the Kusong Machine Plant.

The province also has chemical factories.

The Chongsu Chemical Plant in the province puts out carbide using limestone and the Sinuiju Chemical Plant contributes toward solving the raw materials problem of the textile industry.

Textile industry holds an important place not only in the province's economy but also in the country's economy.

The Kusong Textile Mill and the Sinuiju Textile Mill are the nation's important fiber producers.

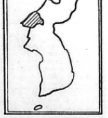
Many daily-necessities manufacturing factories are found in the province, too. Big ones are Sinuiju Rubber Factory, the Sinuiju Enameled Ironware Factory and cosmetics factories.

North Pyongan Province is the third largest grain producer of the country and is also engaged in various types of agriculture such as production of industrial materials, sericultural industry, stock-breeding and fruit-growing.

The province's main agricultural products are rice, corn, beans and wheat. Important rice producing areas are located in Ryongchon, Yomju, Chongju, Unjon, Kwaksan counties.

The industrial materials, the province produces, include leaf tabacco, cotten hemp and sesame.

Cows, pigs, rabbits and sheep are found on farms in the province. Especially, the province's cows are well-known in the country.



After liberation North Pyongan Province has been changed to a developing industrial province and now many new modern cities and counties were rebuilt, including the industrial city Sinuiju.

Sakju county, a mountainous area in North Pyongan Province, has been turned into a wonderful land.

The county was a penal colony in the bygone days, and people there lived by tilling hillside fields, and few daily necessaries were properly made there before the liberation. However it was freed from poverty and backwardness long ago and it now has factories equipped with modern technique and developed agriculture. In the county seat there stand rows of 4-7 storeyed modern apartment houses with factories, educational, cultural, public health and public service facilities conveniently arranged. It has scores of schools of different levels and over 50 hospitals and clinics, among them the County People's Hospital, and a sanatorium has been built up at a spa. A wide variety of daily necessaries are pouring out of 20 or more locally-run factories. The county supplies surplus consumer goods to other counties and exports some of them to foreign markets.

S. Korea, US Staging Ever-Largest Provocative Joint Maneuvers "Team Spirit '79"

South Korea and the United States will hold their largest ever "combined military exercise" in south Korea from March 1, a spokesman for the "S. Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command" announced on Feb. 21 in Seoul.

The exercise is to start on the same day when the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea called for an unconditional stop to all hostile military actions by both sides of north and south.

The spokesman said that the exercise dubbed "Team Spirit '79" will involve about 40,000 American troops, both from south Korea and the U.S. mainland, and 100,000 south Kouean troops, and will be staged for 17 days.

In connection with this, the organ of the CC of the WPK, Rodong Sinmun, in a commentator's article dated February 23, said that "this is a very strange act hardly understandable.... To stage a larg-scale military exercise at this juncture is a grave challenge to our sincere efforts and peace in Korea."

According to the U.S. announcement, the participating American troops will include the 25th U.S. Infantry Division in Hawaii, one battalion of Lance surface-to surface missiles, capable of carrying nuclear warheads or neutron warheads, from Fort Sill, Okla., vessels from the U.S. 7th Fleet, Marines from Okinawa and swing-wing F-111 fighter bombers.

Military sources here said that the exercise will be staged in the areas south of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), aiming at: 1) "defense operation" in field training; 2) effective involvement of U.S. troops in case of "emergency" on the Korean Peninsula; 3) three-dimentional cooperation of the three services of both U.S. troops and south Korean forces. They say that it is meaningful in that it will demonstrate Washington's military commitment to Seoul under the "ROK-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty."

The annual "Team Spirit" exercises have expanded in scale from last year under an agreement at an "annual meeting of the security consultative committee" between south Korea and the United States

Last year, the 11-day military maneuver codenamed "Team Spirit '78" was unfolded from March 7 to 18, involving some 107,000 American and south Korean troops. (65,000 south Korean and 20,000 U.S. troops stationed in south Korea and 22,000 American combat personnel brought from the continental United States and the Pacific region). The joint exercise was aimed to train commanders, staffs and armed forces in the planning, execution and evaluation of combined air, sea and ground operations. The scope of the exercise encompassed strategic development of armed forces to south Korea, air superiority, close air support for south Korea-U.S. ground forces, combined amphivious operations, logistics support for maneuvering forces and coordination of simulated air, sea and land battles.

Following this massive military maneuver, many joint war games were staged in south Korea including the vicinity of the DMZ.

According to military sources here, the exercise is claimed to be intended for "demonstrating the deterrent power to attacks from the north."

From the beginning of this year, arguments for the suspension of the already slowed-down withdrawal plan and of "threat from north Korea" have been brewing again in the administration and Congress with the intention of throwing a cold blanket over an atmosphere of peace on the Korean Peninsula.

The latest report, prepared by a Senate armed services committee study group, said that Carter's modified plan to withdraw GIs from south Korea must be terminated in the face of the so-called "continued immense arms buildup in north Korea."

Affirming such claims, Carter, in his "Report on Korea, 1978" submitted to the Congress on Jan. 15 said, "We can anticipate that north Korea will continue to develop and operate its defense establishment in a surreptitious way. Because the military threat from north Korea remains..."

Thus, claiming the faked-up growing "threat from north Korea," the United States has brough out its plea to take military action in case of a "contingency" on the Korean Peninsula.

In his second annual defense report, Def. Sec. H. Brown said, if a comparable situation (like the 1950 Korean War) were to arise—which is doubtfull—and if it were the only contingency to occur at the time, we could obviously make a larger effort than in 1951. In this way, Washington is planning to provoke a second Korean War which is also the target of "Team Spirit '79" like last year's "Team Spirit '78".

Therefore, while saying that the U.S. administration welcomes north-south dialogue and that it would not seek hegemony in the Asia-Pacific region or in any other region of the world, Washington intends to increase tension on the peninsula and indefinitely to keep a firm hold on south Korea as their military base, commodity market and colony.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from the beginning of the move for resumption of talks between north and south, has made every sincere effort to promote north-south contact and achieve national integration.

Pyongyang proposed a new poposition the keynote of which was the reaffirmation of the idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement, discontinuation of slanders and calumnies, an unconditional stop to military actions and the convocation of a pan-national congress, and has since took a series of practical steps for their realization.

As clarified in these proposals, Pyongyang already suspended all accusations against the south Korean side from February 1. Pyongyang's stand in connection with the divided nation is always based on the sincere desire to create an atmosphere of naional integration and reconciliation and to pave the way for long-awaited peaceful reunification through dialogue and negotiation, from the standpoint of the common interests of the whole nation.

In opposition to this Pyongyang attitude, the plan of the U.S. and south Korean authorities to unfold the largest-scale war game against the DPRK leaves the world public doubtful about their stand.

In the Sino-American joint communique on the rapprochement of their relations, the U.S. declared that it would not seek hegemony in the Asia-Pacific region or in any other region of the world.

If Washington truly thinks so, it should not seek hegemony in Korea, and must stop any military action on the Korean Peninsula.

The United States must leave the integration question of Korea to the Korean people and withdraw all its armed troops from south Korea.

The world public is keeping a strict watch on the action of the United States and the south Korean authorities.

US Marines in Okinawa are heading for south Korea to participate in "Team Spirit '79".

Increased Transfer of Armaments

Since the beginning of last year, the United States has brought large aggressive armed forces into south Korea and areas around it, in order to increase its armed forces including its aif force based in south Korea and increase their offensive capability.

Follows a partial list of military equipment transferred from Washington to Seoul since the beginning of last year: (date: the day of announcement)

January:

A total of more than 270 war planes such as F-16 Eagles, F-4-E Phantoms, RF-4C reconnaissance planes, F-III swing-wing fighter bombers and F-105 Wild Weasels (within FY 1978)

February:

Sophisticated weapons worth 230 million dollars in total including anti-tank TOW missiles, improved anti-aircraft HAWK, RED EYE, HARPOON missiles and air-to-ground MARVERRICK missiles (within FY 1978)

March:

6 CH-47 Boeing transport helicopters and 16 M-88 tank recovery vehicles worth 54,100,000 dollars

May:

Honest John missile launching pads, Vulcan guns, Hawk, Nike missiles, surface-to-air missiles, F-4 and F-5 Phantom planes, training planes, helicopters, destroyers, minesweepers, patrol boats, landing crafts, anti-submarine aircrafts (in July)

June:

Three arms sales bills to the tune of 67 million dollars including 1,100 TOW anti-tank missiles

July:

90 latest type F-16 planes, and 239 jet fighters, over 200 helicopters, 6 destroyers, a large number of missiles and large-caliber guns (within 4-to-5 years)

Characteristic of Recent Maneuvers

The planned "Team Spirit '79" is quite different from any other previous "combined military maneuvers" such as 1969 "Focus Retina", 1971 "Freedom Valut" and 1975 "Yellow Dragon"; it will be an extensive combined air, land and sea exercise in which substantial American air, ground and naval forces will take part and will be staged across the country including the vicinity of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), while the operational areas of the previous maneuvers were confined to the perimeter of Seoul including areas south of the city.

This clearly shows how recklessly Washington is racing to the brink of war, making an excuse of what recently it called the "growing threat from the north."

The variety of the participating U.S. forces is also one of the characteristics of the mammoth exercise.

According to military sources in Seoul, about 40,000 American troops, both in south Korea and from the continental United States, are expected to take part in the war games including about 2,000 soldiers of the 25th U.S. Infantry Division in Hawaii, one battalion of Lance surface-to-surface missiles from Fort Sill, Okla., vessels from the U.S. Seventh Fleet and Marines from Okinawa.

An undisclosed number of swing-wing F-111 fighter-bombers would also be involved.

Simulating a nuclear war on the Korean Peninsula, the exercise will involve sophisticated military equipment such as Lance missiles which can be equipped with nuclear warheads or neutron warheads; B-52 strategic bombers; and nuclear-powered submarines.

The exercise will underline the role of U.S. military bases on the islands of Japan. Over 3,000 U.S. Marines stationed in Okinawa will participate in the exercise, Lance missiles will be airlifted to south Korea from the U.S. mainland via a certain U.S. AFB in Japan.

In February last, in his annual defense report, U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown called Japan the "northern anchor." A few days later he also said in Congressional testimony that air units deployed in the Western Pacific area, naval units in waters near south Korea and Marines on Okinawa would be thrown into battle zones quickly if an "emergency" occurred on the Korean Peninsula.

The air units deployed in the Western Pacific area mean air units at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa and Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan.

Past Military Exercises

At the 10th "S. Korea-U.S. Annual Security Consultative Meeting" held in July, 1977, Washington and Seoul discussed the question of increasing the "S. Korea-U.S. combined military exercises" in the future to keep pace with the "compensatory measures" for GI pullout and to find a convenient excuse for reneging on Carter's election campaign promise.

In response to this agreement, frantic war exercises resembling a real war were staged in and around south Korea, including the vicinity of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

Follows a partial list of major war games staged since the "10th S. Korea-U.S. Annual Security Consultative Meeting":

"Combined Naval Cruising perational Exercise," Oct. to Nov., 1977:

This maneuver was unfolded in the sea off China, the Persian Gulf, and in the northern part of the Indjan Ocean.

"Ssangryong (Twin Dragon) No. 7," Dec., 1977:

The exercise was staged in the East Sea of Korea and participated in by the landing units of the U.S. 7th Fleet and a U.S. marine battalion stationed in Okinawa, fighter planes of the U.S. air force in Japan and other areas, south Korean warships, and air force units.

"Purple Prose," December 1977:

The war game involved the U.S. 3rd Marine Corps stationed in Okinawa, and the 15th Aircraft Wing based at the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station in Iwakuni, Japan.

"Emergency Mobilization Exercise," January 1978:

In the exercise, the U.S. Marine Corps in Iwakuni and Okinawa "scrambled" in response to an alert in a simulated "emergency" on the Korean Peninsula.

"Coronet Condor," January-February 1978:

The maneuver was conducted in the sky over south Korea. Eight U.S. air force F-15 Eagles took part in the operation.

"Condor Hawk," February—March 1978

Although no details of the exercise were not announced, one squadron of A7D Corsairs were airlifted for the first time from the U.S. mainland to south Korea.

"Condor Falcon," Mar., 1978:

F-111 swing-wing, all-weather fighter bombers were deployed in south Korea for the exercise.

"Team Spirit '78," Mar., 1978:

The exercise was the largest of the kind in scale since the 1953 Korean ceasefire, involving 10,700 American and south Korean troops (65,000 south Koreans and 20,000 U.S. troops stationed in south Korea and 22,000 American combat personnel brought from the continental U.S. and the Pacific region).

"Ssangryong (Twin Dragon) No. 8," June 1978:

The exercise was staged in the Pohang area on the eastern coast of North Kyongsang Province.

"Readiness Exercise," September-October 1978:

The 10-day exercise took place around south Korea with the mobilization of the U.S. 7th Fleet, a task force of two carriers and scores of warships, many aircrafts and 15,000 men of the U.S. forces stationed in the Pacific region.

"Cope Thunder," December 1978:

The two-week long aerial exercise involved U.S. air force units in the Clark U.S. AFB, the Philippines, and air force planes in south Korea and Japan.

The exercise was designed to further perfect the "emergency mobilization readiness" of the "mobile strike units" and attack the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from the sky, in particular.

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US Officials' Arguments Against GI Pullout

Follow comments and outbursts of high-ranking officials of the U.S. administration which show Washington's self-acknowledgement of its designs to increase tension on the Korean Peninsula and an atmosphere favorable for the resumption of reunification talks between the north and south of Korea:

President Jimmy Carter, in his "Report on Korea, 1978" submitted to Congress on Jan. 15:

"In close consultation with Congress, the ROK and our other Asian allies, however, we will continually assess changes in the situation and our plans will be adjusted if developments so warrant.

"Coupled with the direct U.S. commitment to defend the ROK, our assistance is designed to make it clear to north Korea and others that any attack will meet with an immediate and strong response, that no armed attack can succeed, and that constructive, peaceful cooperation in the search for means of reducing tensions on the peninsula is the only fruitful approach to the Korean question."

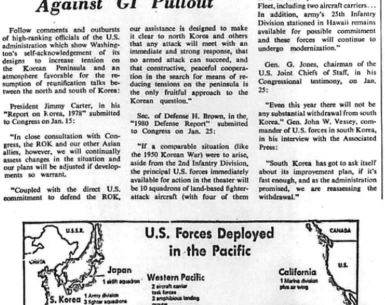
Sec. of Defense H. Brown, in the "1980 Defense Report" submitted to Congress on Jan. 25:

"If a comparable situation (like the 1950 Korean War) were to arise, aside from the 2nd Infantry Division, the principal U.S. forces immediately available for action in the theater will be 10 squadrons of land-based fighter-attack aircraft (with four of them based in south Korea), two brigades of the Third Marine Amphibious Force including its air-wing in Okinawa, 20 to 25 warships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, including two aircraft carriers... In addition, army's 25th Infantry Division stationed in Hawaii remains available for possible commitment and these forces will continue to undergo modernization."

Gen. G. Jones, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, in his Congressional testimony, on Jan. 25:

"Even this year there will not be any substantial withdrawal from south Korea." Gen. John W. Vessey, commander of U.S. forces in south Korea, in his interview with the Associated Press:

"South Korea has got to ask itself about its improvement plan, if it's fast enough, and as the administration promised, we are reassessing the withdrawal."



Kim Hints "KCIA" Masterminds His Kidnap

According to a Reuter despatch from Seoul, the former opposition "presidential" candidate Kim Dae Jung on Feb. 19 told the London-based worldwide wireservice in a one-hour interview at home that he holds a new evidence proving that his kidnapping from Tokyo in August, 1973 was masterminded by a six-man team of the "KCIA."

The opposition leader suspects that the intelligence agency acted behind the scene of the abduction. Saying in this interview that he obtained an information that his kidnappers were the "KCIA" men, he stressed there is no doubt that the "KCIA" is the very criminal. But, he declined to disclose what is the new evidence and how he got it.

In addition, Pak Jung Hi's longtime political rival expressed his desire to meet US President Carter on his first visit to south Korea scheduled after the Tokyo summit of "major democracies" in June to come.

Ealier on Feb. 10, Kim Dae Jung was walked to the Seoul procurator's office and interrogated there for four hours allegedly on charges of the violation of the "presidential emergency decree No. 9". The sudden interrogation resulted from Kim's continuing outspoken criticism of the "*yusin*" dictatorship of Pak Jung Hi even after his parole effect on Dec. 29 last year.

In particular, the opposition leader bitterly denounced the "*yusin* constitution" and the Pak "regime" in a statement released on the day of his parole and speeches delivered respectively at a Protestant prayer meeting held on Dec. 29 and at a prayer meeting held in the Tongdaemun Cathedral on Feb. 8.

The procurator office threatened Kim that he shall be redetained at any time, regarding his future attitude.

Japan's Koreagate Stars Choe So Myon

Another secret agent of "KCIA" was uncovered here by a Tokyo tax office investigation. The guy is a self-styled resident Catholic scholar, Choe So Myon, who is one of the three major field agents of the Blue House. The others are Pak Tong Son, a rice-dealer, and Mun Son Myong, a self-styled Christian evangelist, who were posted in the United States.

The naturalized American "socialite", Pak Tong Son, had peddled influence to American Congressmen through sumptuous Washington parties. Among the guests at his George Town Club were former President Ford and the incumbent House speaker O'Neil. The wheeler-dealer, who has been indicted by the US Justice Department for bribing Congressmen at the instigation of the KCIA, was forced to leave the country never to return, and is now hiding in south Korea.

Still active in the US as well as in Japan is the self-ordained "Messiah," Mun Son Myong. His "unification church" was founded in south Korea with the backing of the "KCIA", and then expanded to Japan and the US. The ill-famed personality cult does not serve to evangelize, but to make money through its believers and subsidized business groups. Bribing and and pandering are the method of the "unification church" to buy influence on Capitol Hill. His sponsors include former US President Nixon and former Japanese Prime Ministers Kishi and Fukuda, the well-known south Korean lobbyists here. The satyr, disguising himself as a "evangelist", is now under fire here and abroad for his abuse of Christianity, causing controversies widely.

No. 3 man Choe So Myon is yet to be uncovered to the full. He remains active in peddling influence into the Japanese establishment, mainly the press and academic and cultural circles, in a bid to turn the public opinion here favourable for Seoul.

Tax Evasion Disclosed

This time, Tokyo tax office investigators revealed that such influence-buying funds had been funneled from Seoul into Choe So Myon through the Tokyo-based "Institute for Korean Study," whose director is Choe himself. The total sum remitted to Choe's institute from 1973 to 1977 on over seven occasions amounted to 117 million yen. The remittances were directly channeled from the government-sponsored "International Institute for Korean Study" in Seoul to its Tokyo branch or Choe's "Institute for Korean Study." Of the total amount, the account for 40 million yen was found missing, and the spending of the sum remains veiled despite the tax office investigation.

Well-informed sources here believe that the money was spent for influence-buying among the Japanese via Choe's Japanese associate Kanayama Masahide. The former ambassador to south Korea is now the director of the "Joint Research Institute of International Relations," which functions as a component of Choe's institute and is financed by Seoul.

Choe So Myon As Assassin

Who is the mysterious Korean called Choe So Myon? In fact, the name is a pseudonym, and his real name is Choe Jung Ha.

Surprising enough, he is the mastermind of the assassination of Chang Dok Su on Dec. 2, 1947 in Seoul. The victim was then the director of the political affairs department of the opposition Korean Democratic Party, which later merged with the Communist Party to form the Workers' Party of south Korea. Arrested by the US "Military Government" on charges of the assassination, the killer was sentenced to 20-year-imprisonment. During his service in the Taegu prison, the Korean War broke out. Thus, availing himself of the wartime chaos, he fled from the jail.

All of a sudden, the rightwing terrorist flew to Japan aboard a US military aircraft in 1957. Thus, he mysteriously appeared here from his hide-out. In particular, the runaway worked hard behind the scene for the conclusion of the "south Korea-Japan treaty" of May, 1965, traveling between Seoul and Tokyo. In 1970, he set up the "Institute for Korean Study." Later, together with his Japanese associate Kanayama, Choe also established the "Joint Research Institute of International Relations."

In this way, the assassin has been actively engaged in "KCIA's" influence peddling here as a field agent.

But, the mystery of Choe's sudden appearance in this country is yet to be unveiled thoroughly—who sent him here and why and how?

Among other things, he was deeply involved in the 1973 "KCIA" abduction of the south Korean opposition leader, Kim Dae Jung, from Tokyo to Seoul. When Pak's longtime political rival unfolded anti-"yusin" campaigns, together with his fellow countrymen in the United States where he was in exile, a resident south Korean observer here said, Choe flew there and closely shadowed him. On Kim's second visit to Japan in July, 1973, the conspirator returned here after him. Then, he asked his associate Kanayama to follow and watch Pak's opponent, the observer added.

One month later, Kim was abducted by "KCIA" agents from a Tokyo hotel.

Choe's identity as a "KCIA" field agent was once disclosed at a US House hearing in June, 1976.

Smuggling of Kisaengs

His close connection with the "KCIA" was recently unconvered here by Kanayama's involvement in the case of south Korean women's illegal entry into this country.

The Japanese Diet took issue with the case. It was revealed during interpellation in the Lower House's budget committee that Daito Yasuo, a former Japanese embassy staff member in Seoul in charge of visa under Kanayama, issued a visa for a south Korean woman the ambassador and the official were well acquainted with, despite his knowledge that she falsified her visa application form. After reassigned to the emigration and immigration office at home, the official illegally helped her obtain a government permission to extend her stay in Japan. Then, Kanayama stood surety for the woman, a Japanese daily reported.

Speculation is rife here that she was a kisaeng on "KCIA's" payroll to serve its influence-peddling operations here. It is also believed that here are many other such KCIA-supported kisaengs. There is no doubt that immigration officials here have been involved in KCIA's smuggling of kisaengs into this country. Choe So Myon is said to have been playing an important role in this business. It is well known that he has close contacts with former Prime Minister Kishi Nobusuke.

Influence-Buying In US, Europe

Disguising himself as the director of the "Institute for Korean Study," Choe So Myon also manipulated to set up the "International Council of Korean Study Institutes." The paper organization was allegedly inaugurated in July, 1973 in Paris. With its secretariat located in Tokyo, Choe became the secretary-general.

In fact, the so-called international council is a "KCIA" machinery engrossed in sending invitation to foreign scholars, mainly American, to visit south Korea, or providing money for those specialized in Asian study, in an effort to tempt them to support the Pak "regime."

In a letter addressed to the Association of Asian Study in the US, a pan-American body of Asia watchers, Choe asked the association to invite pro-Seoul scholars to participate in a symposium, which was to be held in Canada in March, 1976 under its sponsorship, and said that, for this purpose, the council would remit a sum of 3,000 dollars.

This was revealed by Professor of Michigan University Rose Murphey, president of the association, when he met a Japanese correspondent of the national daily Yomiuri Shimbun, according to the paper dated Feb. 20, 1977. The American professor told that the "International Council of Korean Study Institutes" had been preoccupied only with editing a number of booklets or pamphlets praising the Pak "regime." It, he added, even offered American scholars to pay their expenses for their trip to attend Korean study symposia to be held in any country and their lodging expenses.

In July, 1975, Choe organized the second general meeting of the "International Council of Korean Study Institutes" in Seoul. Then, too, invitations were sent to American scholars by the bogus organization, without any expenses required.

An American scholar, who then received the invitation but refused to participate in the Seoul meeting, disclosed that Choe, in a letter to him, proposed those wishing to stay in Japan on their way to south Korea or on their way home from there should be guided by staff members of the "Joint Research Institute of International Relations" in Tokyo.

This also proves the close connection between the "KCIA" agent and the former Japanese ambassador to Seoul.

What is more, Choe provided funds for the "European Society for Korean Study" which was said to have been inaugurated in London in March, 1977. The disclosure was made by a British scholar who was asked by the "KCIA" agent to join the society.

Of a total amount of 3,900 pounds necessary for its establishment, 2,900 pounds were provided personally by Choe So Myon and 1,000 pounds directly by the south Korean "Ministry of Culture and Information."

The terrorist-turned south Korean "socialite" has so far extensivey intrigued, under the cloak of scholar, to buy influence not only in Japan but also in the US and some Western European countries under the direction of the "KCIA."

His case will probably produce Japan's Koreagate, as it is now being brought to broad daylight.

Shown here is a building accommodating the "Institute for Korean Study" located in Tokyo: inset, its director Choe So Myon.

60th Anniversary of March 1 Popular Uprising

The 60th anniversary of the March 1, 1919 Popular Uprising came up for celebration. This struggle, well known as the March 1 Manse Incident, was a gallant nation-wide resistance against the then colonial rulers, the Japanese imperialists.

Their occupation had origins when the unequal 1876 "Kanghwa-do Treaty" was concluded with the feudal rulers of Korea. Its followup was the 1905 "Ulsa Protectorate Treaty" which surrendered the sovereignty of Korea to the Japanese, backed by Anglo-American imperialists. Korea was completely annexed by Japan in 1910, with Koreans banned Korean and forced to adopt Japanese way of life as second-class Japanese subjects.

Korea was no longer what it was. The invading Japanese took over everything, uprooting the local people. Many were conscripted by the Japanese for military service or forced labor. Patriots were arrested, imprisoned and murdered. Millions of Koreans began to prepare the resistance against the invaders.

The long-smoldering resentment exploded into a nation-wide rebellion, under the influence of the great October, 1917 Socialist Revolution in Russia. The uprisin was kicked off by hundreds of thousands of Seoul citizens when they launched a street demonstration, demanding Korean independence.

Bourgeois "national representatives" immediately gave up the struggle, misled by the illusion about the "possibility of restoring independence by petitions or other peaceful means."

The determined Korean masses continued with their struggle, however. Many disciples of Kim Hyong Jik, father of President Kim Il Sung—patriotic-minded people and students—spearheaded the struggle in Pyongyang, Kangdong, Mangyongdae and other parts of Korea and even abroad.

According to a conservative survey disclosed by the Japanese authorities, in a two-month period of March and April, a total of 1,491 riots and demonstrations took place at a total of 618 places throughout the Land of Morning Calm, not to mention those in Manchuria, Japan and the Littoral Province.

The Japanese reacted with prompt sanguinary repressive measures, unknown in scale and severity. Their arrests totalled 46,948 during the March-May period; 7,509 were slaughtered and 15,961 wounded, many of whom were later left untreated to die. Lots of the arrested were tortured to death.

Concerning the historic significance of the national uprising, President Kim Il Sung, who championed the independence of Korea and led his 15-year anti-Japanese armed struggle to a victorious conclusion, had this to say.

"Through the March 1 Movement our Korean people demonstrated to the peoples of the world that they were not only alive but also opposed to a slavish life and determined to fight to the end for freedom and independence."

The March 1 struggle offered a permanent source of inspiration to the Korean people, though no independence of their homeland resulted. It also became a watershed in their national liberation struggle, providing a valuable opportunity to review the past independence attempts critically.

Bourgeois nationalists' expectations of American help proved totally ridiculous: It was Uncle Sam that endorsed and defended the Japanese imperialists' occupation of Korea and suppression of its people in their struggle for liberation.

The vital lesson was that Korean independence could be won only when the indigenous workers and peasants enjoyed the wise leadership of an outstanding leader in their struggle, guided by the revolutionary Juche principle.

President Kim Il Sung inherited the revolutionary cause left by his father and launched a successful Juche-motivated armed struggle.

The past 34 years since the liberation of Korea have seen the northern half emerge as a powerful socialist state, independent in politics, self-sustenant in the national economy and self-reliant in national defenses, whereas the southern half, with the US troops as the new occupation forces, has been reduced to a dual colony of the US and Japan.

Korean people attending the March 1 Manse Incident, 1919

◆

Brief Korean History (3)

Formation of Slave-Owning States

In an exploiting society its power is anti-popular and bureaucratic as it doesn't reflect the will of the people.

Slave-owning states established after the collapse of primitive society were anti-popular and bureaucratic without any exception. However, the appearance of slave-owning states was a lawful and inevitable process of historical development of mankind.

Since the primitive era, the ancestors of the Korean nation had inhabited in the Korean Peninsula, in the northeastern area of China and in the whole area of the present Littoral Province of Siberia. According to ancient documents, many tribes including Kochoson, Puyo, Ye, Okcho and Han were inhabiting on this vast area.

In the first millennium B.C., within the respective tribes, clan communities collapsed in general, and many small slave-owning states were founded. Large slave-owning states were Kochoson, Puyo and Chinguk.

Kochoson emerged as a powerful slave-owning state in the 8th-7th centuries B.C.

Kochoson ruled a wide area comprising the northwestern part of the Korean Peninsula and the Liaotung area of China. Its capital was Wanggumsong in the Liao River basin.

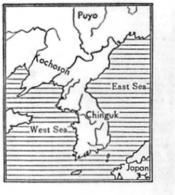
Kochoson was formed in the pre-iron age stage in which the bronze age reached a high level, as represented by lute-shaped bronze swards.

Evidence was amply found in the Kangshan tomb and the Loushang tomb discovered in Luta City in the southern tip of the Liatung Peninsula.

The Kangshan tomb is a kind of a stone tomb, situated in the center of the hill, 100 metres in diameter. A total of 23 graves stand on stone grounds in three groups, each made up of the grave of slave owner in the center and graves of slaves.

Four to five slaves are buried in a grave in general and at most 18. Bones of 140 people were confirmed.

Ancient Korean territory around the 3rd century B.C.



The tomb was built estimatedly at 8th-7th centuries B.C.

The Loushang tomb is also a slave owner's grave with 50 slaves buried together with him. It was built estimatedly at 7th-5th centuries B.C.

With the use of state power, slave owners possessed slaves as "speaking implements" and slaughtered tens or hundreds of people as companions for their journey to another world.

In Kochoson, the king was the head of state. He was assisted by such nobles as high aristocrats, ministers, generals, scholarly men and a powerful regular army.

The population was divided into the following categories: the ruling classes that formed aristocrats or slave-owners; *homin* or the well-to-do, and the peasants who tilled their own land; landless *haho* who were the lower strata of the commoners; and slaves who were the lowest strata. The supply of slaves was steadily supplemented by war captives and insolvent debtors.

The Puyo tribe, one of Korea's ancient tribes, founded a kingdom later than Kochoson around the 5th century B.C. Puyo covered a vast area of the upper reaches of the Liao River and the basin of the Sungari River, Northeast China.

Situated at the fertile plain of the reaches of the Sungari River, Puyo developed agriculture and stockbreeding. Around the middle of the 3rd century B.C., Puyo emerged as a powerful slave-owning state, by unifying a group of small states.

The area dominated by Puyo was divided into five districts. The central district was under the direct control of the king and its surrounding four districts were called Maga, Uga, Choga and Kuga.

All powers were in the hands of aristocrats called *"Ka"* and *homin*, the upper strata of the common people. The commoners, *haho* or poor people, and slaves were targets of their exploitation.

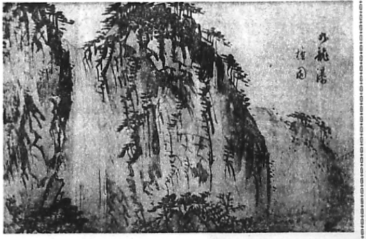
At about the same time as Puyo, ancient tribes living in the area south of central Korea founded Chinguk, a slave-owning state. Its capital was Woljiguk (present Chiksan, South Chungchon Province).

On the territory of Chinguk there were more than 70 small states. Even after her founding, Chinguk remained divided in three regions—Mahan, Pyonhan and Chinhan. The king of Chinguk was from Chinhan.

Favoured by a milded climate and fertile land, Chinguk produced rice. The slavery system of Chinguk was similar to those of Kochoson and Puyo.

(To be continued)

A dolmen found in Ryonggang county, South Pyongan Province



Korean Painting

"Kuryong Falls'

(By Kim Hong Do, 18th century)

This painting with strong lines and clear light and darkness shows painter's deep love and sharp observation for Korea's nature.

The water fall falling on high rocks, drawn with a few lines, presents an impressive scene.

Kim Hong Do, a realistic painter of the 18th century, expressed the high spirit and rich emotions of the Korean people, in his works, typical of the Korean paintings: a sense of strong and clear.

S. Korean Girl's Tragedy in W. Germany

According to the West German daily newspaper "Morgen Post", south Korean "Central Intelligence Agency" agents cruelly murdered of late a south Korean girl, Kim Yong Suk, who had been taken to West Germany as a nurse.

Follows a story of her tragic death in West Germany.

KOREAN AIR LIN

South Korean women are emigrated as labour forces.

Living Hell of Toil, Insult

Yong Suk was taken as a nurse by the Seoul authorities to a hospital in Duesseldolf, an industrial city of West Germany, in autumn of 1976.

Yong Suk decided to work in the Duesseldolf Hospital far away from south Korea, where 46 south Korean girls were already working, subjected to hard work and maltreatments, in order to earn money enough to look after her mother suffering from illness and to help her sister with her school expenses.

South Korean girls there asked why she came there, and told her about how badly they were treated there, when she arrived the hospital and was greeted by them.

Listening to them, Yong Suk thought that hardships should be endured to earn money because money could not be earned without any difficulty.

Soon after she began to work there, Yong Suk realized that the work was so hard that it was not a match for women.

It was too much for south Korean nurses to attend to West German patients who could not speak Korean—disposing of their urine and feces, cutting their finger-nails and toenails.

South Korean girls were tired out and were unable even to walk after a 16 hour day. On top of that, they suffered national insults by West German doctors and nurses who gave dirty jobs to Yong Suk and other south Korean girls.

West German doctors did not hesitate not only to insult the south Korean girls but also to whip them when they did something disagreeable to them. It was not once or twice that Yong Suk was given a whipping.

South Korean nurses received wages less than 1/3 of the wage West German nurses received, though they were put to hard work.

One day, a German doctor called Yong Suk to a quiet room, saying that he was giving her "medical education."

As expected, the doctor suddenly took Yong Suk by the wrist in order to satisfy his carnal desire.

Yong Suk, clattering her teeth with vexation, pushed the ill-natured doctor away with full force and rushed out of the room, shouting.

Other south Korean girls also had the same experiences as Yong Suk had. For example, south Korean nurse, called Choe, became mentally deranged because of the shock she received when West German doctors tried to attack her.

The Duesseldolf Hospital was a living hell where south Korean nurses were insulted and treated contemptuously.

This was not the end of the ill-luck of Yong Suk in West Germany.

Yong Suk unexpectedly met with a misfortune last summer—she had to receive at the Duesseldolf Hospital her little sister Yong Ok who was thought to be in south Korea.

The feeling of fear and presentiment of something evil overcame the feeling of joy when Yong Suk found that a new nurse from south Korea was her sister Yong Ok.

"Yong Ok!"

"Sister!"

"Oh, how did you come here? Is mother in good health?"

"She died."

"What, she died..."

"She died without taking a dose of medicine while waiting for you."

"Does it mean that mother died without taking a dose of medicine?"

Yong Suk embraced her sister in her arms, crying.

She believed that her mother, suffering from illness, was waiting for the day when she would come back home with money.

However, this hope and expectation disappeared the moment she heard of her mother's death from her sister. Yong Suk, unable to see her mother again, was seized with sorrow and didn't know what to do in future. The more she thought of the future, the darker the future became.

Yong Suk's heart sank in sorrow when she thought of her sister who had come to the living hell.

"Oh, Yong Ok, did you come here, knowing what this place is like?"

"Mother told me to come to you when she breathed her last. So, I..."

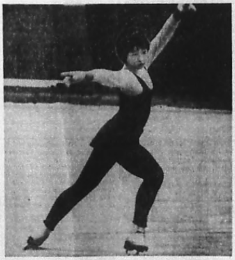
"What is done here?"

"As I feared, you don't know..."

Yong Suk did not have the strength to talk any more.

Yong Ok couldn't understand why her sister was so sorrowful. But that was only a question of time.

(To be continued)



A Korean girl born in Japan is to attend international sports games as a representative of her fatherland.

Kim Myo Sil, 14, resident in Tokyo, left Narita Airport on February 19 to participate in the Figure Skating International Championships of Youth and Children of Socialist Countries (Feb. 21-28) and the World Figure Skating Championships (Mar. 13-18).

Miss Kim, who began to practice skating at the age of 4, draw public attention as she finished first place in the A-Class of Tokyo Games and in the Junior Class of All-Kanto District Games.

She is to perform to the tune of "Azaleas of Fatherland", one of the most famous dancing melodies of the DPRK.

News Dispatch From Pyongyang

Feb. 15

•An agreement on news exchange and cooperation between the Korean Central News Agency and the Bakhtar News Agency of Afghanistan was signed in Kabul.

Feb. 16

•A 1979-1981 protocol on cooperation in radio broadcasting between the Korean Central Broadcasting Committee and the Czechoslovak Radio was signed in Prague.

Feb. 17

•A friendship gathering was held at the Pyongyang Textile Combine on the occasion of the 61st anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army.

Feb. 19

•A plan for cultural exchange for 1979-1980 between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Government of the Bulgarian People's Republic was signed in Pyongyang.

•A photo exhibition opened under the auspices of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces on the occasion of the 61st anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army.

Feb. 20

•A delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of the DPRK headed by Chi Jae Ryong left Pyongyang by plane for a visit to China at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China.

Feb. 22

•The Central People's Committee of the DPRK issued a decree appointing K-e Jang Hwan as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the DPRK to the Republic of Malta.

World Bulletin

•Gustav Husak, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, paid a goodwill visit to Poland.

•The party and state delegation of the German Democratic Republic paid an official goodwill visit to Angola.

•The Sri Lankan Prime Minister declared in his speech on February 16 that the goal of his government was to build an equitable society.

•The co-chairman of the Zimbabwean Patriotic Front at a recent press conference stressed that the doom of the illegal Smith racist power is not far off.

•The government delegations of Senegal and Cape Verde issued a joint communique putting stress on mutual cooperation in various domains.

•Nicolae Ceausescu, General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and President of the Romanian Socialist Republic, recently paid a goodwill visit to Bulgaria and he made a speech at a meeting of working people of the "August 23" Enterprise in Bucharest.

•The party and state delegation of the German Democratic Republic headed by Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the GDR, paid an official goodwill visit to Libya.

•The second meeting of the cultural ministers of the Arab countries was held recently in the capital of Libya.

•A protocol on commodity exchange between Hungary and the GDR was signed.

•The fourth ministerial conference of the "Group of 77" of the United Nations conference on trade and development was held in Arusha.

•The second inter-governmental conference on communication policies in Asia and Oceania was held in Kuala Lumpur.

•The 1979 protocol on commodity exchange between Romania and Yugoslavia was signed recently in Bucharest.

•New university was founded in the Sudan.

Do You Know?

Swinging

The swinging is a folk amusement liked by women. The swingers sway high up into the sky on a pedal suspended by a pair of ropes from a pole-supported beam or a big tree branch. In old times swinging was enjoyed by women in northwestern and other parts of the country mainly in spring and summer before and after the May Festival in lunar calender. At that time, the rope was usually made of rice straw or flax or cloth dyed beautifully in different colours, and it had a safety wrist holder attached. There were single and double swingings. The swinging contests were held in various ways. At the beginning one who could kick or bite a leaf or flower spray of a tree in front won the game. Then a bout was decided by the height attained in swinging. Although it was a folk amusement in the past, the swinging has now become a national sports game as it is good for the physical training of women.

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